

**TOWN OF WEBSTER  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
ROBERT MILLER, CHAIRMAN  
DONALD BOURQUE, VICE CHAIRMAN  
ANDREW JOLDA  
MARK DOWGIEWICZ  
WILLIAM STARZEC**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Thursday, May 7, 2015. Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Attendance:** Randy Becker, William Starzec, Mark Dowgiewicz, Andrew Jolda and Don Bourque

**Absent:** Mark Dowgiewicz

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Selectman Miller led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectman Bourque thanked everyone for coming out and voting. He stated he would like to thank Mr. Miller for all his years of service. He stated he would like to welcome Randy Becker to the Board.

**Nuisance Dog Hearing – Alan Savides – 19 Hugo Terrace**

Selectman Bourque read the nuisance dog hearing protocol. Michelle Lafleche came forward. Mr. McAuliffe stated the dog owner was not in attendance. Ms. Lafleche stated she has developed a known relationship with this dog's owner. She stated she has fined him several times for not having his dog on a leash and not showing her the dog's immunization papers. She stated he has never paid the fines and had to go to court. She stated the court has ruled in the Town's favor every time. She stated the owner claims the dog is a service dog and therefore does not need to be on a leash. She stated he allows the dog to roam free through the neighborhood and neighbors have expressed that the dog has growled at them. Mr. McAuliffe stated the Town can't ask for paperwork on whether the dog is a service dog. He stated the dog also needs a dog license form the Town. Selectman Starzec asked if the dog is current on its rabies vaccine. She stated she contacted the Animal Hospital after the owner refused to show them documentation and did verify the dog is vaccinated. Mr. McAuliffe stated the Board might have to make a strong stance on this situation. Selectman Starzec asked Ms. Lafleche what the Town can do. Ms. Lafleche stated the Town can take the dog since the dog is not license. Selectman Bourque asked what Ms. Lafleche's recommendation would be. Ms. Lafleche stated she would recommend to fence in his yard and get a dog license. Selectman Jolda stated there might be financial issues. Selectman Starzec stated he would recommend requiring his to get the dog license immediately and not to order his to erect a fence.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to continue the Nuisance Dog Hearing until May 18, 2015 and to constable the dog owner with the new hearing date.

**Vote:** Mr. Becker – yes, Mr. Starzec – yes, Mr. Jolda – yes, Mr. Bourque – yes.

Selectman Bourque stated the FY16 Utility Rate Presentation has been table until the next meeting.

Selectman Bourque called for a 5 minute recess.

**Board of Selectmen's Discussion and Vote Special Election for the Purpose of Proposition 2 ½ Override for Fiscal Year 2016 General Fund Operating Budget**

Mr. McAuliffe stated he had the opportunity to serve the Town of Webster for six years. He stated the Town has never attempted an override. He stated the word "override" has become such a dirty word. He stated some communities pass an override ever year. He stated people take pride in serving their community. Selectman Bourque stated the Board of Selectmen are not the final say. He stated the voters will decide. Mr. McAuliffe stated he has worked closely with the School Committee and the School Department on developing a reasonable strategy. He stated they will propose two choices. They will present a 2 million dollars override that will carry the Town for two years or a one million dollar override that will provide the Town what it needs to operate for this year. He stated both will appear on the ballot.

Ms. Regis stated the higher dollar amount prevails. She stated residents will be able to vote no on both questions. Selectman Becker asked if there could be clarifying language on the ballot vote so that residents wouldn't get confused. Ms. Regis stated the Town will publish a fact sheet. She stated the State limits what can be put on the ballot. Ted Avlas stated the School Department strongly endorses the straight forward approach. He stated the two million dollar override would be the best scenario. He stated if the override does not pass the School Department has a proposed budget. He stated they will need to reduce staff. Mike Finamore stated this override is necessary. Mr. McAuliffe stated the most important part of all of this is that School Department and the Town work well together.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to call for a Special Town Election to be held Monday, June 15, 2015 at the Town Hall with the two ballot questions as written:

“Shall the Town of Webster be allowed to assess an additional \$2,000,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the operating budgets of the Town and the Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015?”

“Shall the Town of Webster be allowed to assess an additional \$1,000,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the operating budgets of the Town and the Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015?”

**Vote: Mr. Becker – yes, Mr. Starzec – yes, Mr. Jolda – yes, Mr. Bourque – yes.**

## **Adjournment**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**Vote: Mr. Becker – yes, Mr. Starzec – yes, Mr. Jolda – yes, Mr. Bourque – yes.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Courtney Friedland